

SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS

Academic and Student Affairs
Consent

AGENDA ITEM: 5 – Y
DATE: April 2-3, 2025

SUBJECT

Intent to Plan Requests

CONTROLLING STATUTE, RULE, OR POLICY

[BOR Policy 2.3.2](#) – New Programs, Program Modifications, and Inactivation/Termination

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION

Per BOR Policy 2.3.2, Intent to Plan requests are reviewed by the Executive Director (or designee) and if approved to the next step are then reviewed by the Academic Affairs Council for feedback, consultation, and possible collaboration. BOR academic leadership then provides a report to the Board’s Committee on Academic and Student Affairs regarding submitted Intent to Plan requests with a report to the full Board placed under the Consent section of the agenda as a routine informational item. The approval of an Intent to Plan proposal does not overwrite the Full Proposal process and does not guarantee approval of the Full Proposal by the Board.

IMPACT AND RECOMMENDATION

This report will provide the intent to plans that were approved by the Executive Director and will be followed by a full proposal in a future Board meeting.

1. BHSU – MS in Psychology

The proposed program will provide students with a solid foundation in psychological research. With rigorous training in graduate statistics and research methods, students will be prepared to embark on a mentored research thesis. Coursework will also cover a variety of subfields within psychology. The program will also serve as a launching pad for those wanting to go on to a doctoral-level program.

2. DSU – MS in Cyber Operations

The proposed program is designed to be a technical program firmly grounded in computer science, which will emphasize applied research in cybersecurity. Students enrolled in the program will become a vital resource for research engineers, as well as for regional and national employers. The program aims to

(Continued)

INFORMATIONAL ITEM

produce graduates with advanced technical expertise in cyber operations, applied research in cybersecurity, and innovation within computer science, emphasizing high-demand skills like malware analysis and software exploitation.

3. NSU – AS in Education

The proposed program will offer foundational preparation for individuals aspiring to pursue a career in education or related fields. The two-year program will emphasize core principles in teaching, learning, and child development, blending theoretical knowledge with hands-on experiences in classroom settings. Graduates will be equipped with essential skills in educational practices, classroom management, and student support, preparing them to enter the workforce in support roles, such as paraprofessionals/educational assistants, or to seamlessly transition to a four-year degree in education.

ATTACHMENTS

None